

In re Patent Application of:
HOLLAND ET AL.
Serial No. 10/619,327
Filing Date: July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 72191

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 8 remain in this application. Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 are cancelled. Claims 1, 5 and 8 have been amended. Claim 2 has been previously presented.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art and note the withdrawal of the rejection over Sasamoto and Moriyama and Mead and the application of the new reference located by the Examiner as U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0003092 to Sjodin. Applicants also question the finality of this Office Action relative to the new reference to Sjodin, which had not been previously cited.

In any event, Applicants have amended the independent claims and present reasons why the amended claims as presented in this After Final Amendment are patentable.

The claimed network and method is for use with a limited access multimode cooperative telecommunication network that comprises a limited access internode communications network and a plurality of nodes connected to each other through the internode communications network. Each respective node comprises a Private Branch Exchange (PBX) platform operating as a switchboard between those PBX nodes and each having a separate dialing plan.

The other independent claims 5 and 8 are similarly amended to recite the limited access internode communications network and the plurality of nodes.

In re Patent Application of:
HOLLAND ET AL.
Serial No. 10/619,327
Filing Date: July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 72191

As noted in the Background of the Invention section, and more particularly at paragraph 3, this claimed network and method overcome the drawback of using a unified dialing plan where a resource node membership can be expected to change. Since each node has a copy of a plan, any change to a node must be replicated at every other node or made to a master. Any changes in the dialing plan, such as the updating of the plans, may also lead to out-of-date routing information, resulting in misrouted calls. The number and portability is another problem that is addressed by the claimed system and method.

The claimed network and method is not used in an update scheme for updating databases or numbers since the purpose of the claimed subject matter is to overcome the substantive problems of updating databases, which is a methodology prone to error.

The cited Sjodin is substantially different because Sjodin specifically will update based upon the Portable Unit Number (PUN) that is received within the reply message containing an authentication key. The claimed subject matter, on the other hand, does not update.

An example is given in paragraph 33 of Sjodin in which an enquiry message contains information about the identity of a cordless telephone A (the PUN) and the node that recognizes the PUN number answers and sends a reply message containing the authentication key of A while the other node (NN10) at the same time stores information about which node cordless telephone A currently is registered in, in this case NN10. This signal is

In re Patent Application of:
HOLLAND ET AL.
Serial No. 10/619,327
Filing Date: July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 72191

carried over the network, and thus, provides updating, which is substantially different and across purposes from what the claimed subject matter presented in this After Final Amendment accomplishes. A call may be set up by using the enquiry message and a response, but there is still the updating as clearly set forth in paragraph 33 of Sjodin as set forth below:

"This means that the home location database functionality is distributed on request, when an enquiry message is sent out (broadcasted). If for example the user of cordless telephone A roams into NN 10 and NN 10 does not know which is the home location node of A, NN 10 sends an enquiry message to all the other nodes, NN 20, NN 30, NN 40 within the customer area, or within the private network, preferably/using broadcast messaging. In a particular implementation such an enquiry message contains information about the identity of cordless telephone A, particularly the Portable Unit Number (PUN). The node which then recognizes for example the PUN number, then answers and sends a reply message containing the authentication key of A. In this case it is NN 20 that recognizes e.g. the PUN number. NN 10 at the same time stores information about which node cordless telephone A currently is registered in, in this case NN 10. All this signalling is carried over the network 25."

Thus, the claimed subject matter transmits a query message from the first node to all other nodes of the network and this query message is operative to determine whether a respected node receiving the query message is coupled to the call device as a queried target. At each node, the local accounts are examined

In re Patent Application of:
HOLLAND ET AL.
Serial No. 10/619,327
Filing Date: July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 72191

to determine if the queried target as the requested extension is connected to the respective node. At a second node to which the call device is coupled, a reply message is transmitted to the first node indicating that the second node is coupled to the call device and has the queried target corresponding to the required extension while all other nodes ignore the query message and do not transmit a reply message indicative the all other nodes do not have the queried target as the requested extension for locating or routing. In response to receipt of the reply message by the first node, the call is routed from the first node to the second node so that the second node may complete the connection of the call to the call device without requiring a copy of dialing plans for all other nodes.

Thus, no other copy of dialing plans is required as compared to Sjodin in which information that is new about which node the cordless telephone A currently is registered in is stored as updated information to give the associated new PUN and authentication key information.

Also, it should be emphasized that Sjodin is directed to a private telecommunications system using cellular telephones and ensuring home registration database updating as compared to the claimed subject matter, which is directed to the limited access multimode cooperative telecommunication network that uses the limited access internode communications network and plurality of nodes such as the PBX's that are installed in different offices of commercial, industrial and governmental enterprises

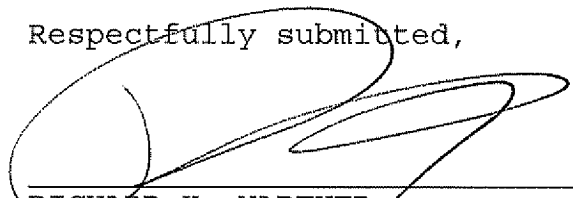
In re Patent Application of:
HOLLAND ET AL.
Serial No. 10/619,327
Filing Date: July 14, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 72191

and use a limited digit identification code. Thus, there is no necessity for storing this new information as in Sjodin because it is a limited access network with the new methodology and teaches against what Sjodin teaches.

Thus, Applicants contend that the claimed subject matter is novel and unobvious over Sjodin as explained above.

Applicants contend that the present case in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and issue fee due. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing the case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



RICHARD K. WARTHER
Reg. No. 32,180
Allen, Dyer, Doppelt, Milbrath
& Gilchrist, P.A.
255 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 1401
Post Office Box 3791
Orlando, Florida 32802
Phone: 407-841-2330